

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 00021 292251 Z

64

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

AID-20 RSR-01 /116 W

----- 057899

R 292201 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1496

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 21 D83

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, VE, AR

SUBJECT: OASGA- AGENDA ITEM 9

REF: STATE 045844

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS MAR 28, AMB HUGO CAMINOS, LEGAL ADVISOR OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, SAID HE HAD BEEN IN CARACAS WITHIN PAST FORTNIGHT AND WHILE THERE HAD HAD HALF-HOUR PRIVATE TALK WITH FONMIN CALVANI WHICH INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF OASGA AGENDA ITEM 9.

2. CAMINOS SAID THAT HE FOUND DR. CALVANI VERY BAGUE ON SUBJECT. HE BELIEVES CALVANI, LIKE GOA, IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER INCREASING INEFFECTIVENESS OF OAS AS PRESENTLY CONSTITUTED. HE SAID THAT CALVANI DISCLAIMS ANY DESIRE TO REORGANIZE OAS ALONG STRICTLY LATIN AMERICAN LINES BUT BELIEVES OAS MUST BE RESTRUCTURED AND MODERNIZED TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE TIMES. CALVANI HAD NO PLAN OR SPECIFIC PROPOSAL TO OFFER AND CAMINOS IS CONVINCED THAT PURPOSE OF HIS PROPOSAL IS SIMPLY TO OPEN A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE SUBJECT. CALVANI ALLEGEDLY EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE US, TO JUDGE FROM ITS PERFORMANCE

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 00021 292251 Z

AT RECENT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, WAS LOSING ITS ABILITY TO ACCEPT CRITICISM, HOWEVER WELL- INTENDED, AND WAS RETREATING TO A POSITION OF INDIFFERENCE IN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS.

3. ACCORDING TO CAMINOS, CALVANI WENT TO SC MEETING IN PANAMA RELUCTANTLY AND ONLY BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTUNINGS OF TORRIJOS. HE HAD HOPED TO BE ABLE TO SERVE AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN US AND ITS MORE SEVERE CRITICS AT THE MEETING. CAMINOS SAID CALVANI TOOK A VERY DIM VIEW OF SECGEN GALO PLAZAS' ATTENDANCE AT PANAMA AND CRITICIZED HIS SILENCE IN THE SESSIONS, WHICH HE BELIEVES DAMAGED THE PRESTIGE OF HIS POSITION AND THE OAS IN GENERAL. LODGE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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